

THE WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY

Second Meeting Wednesday December 19, 1945

The next meeting of the Washington Statistical Society is to be held Wednesday December 19, 1945 at 8 p.m. in room 102 Hall of Government, George Washington University, 21st and G Streets, N.W., Washington, D. C. The program will deal with "Some New Federal Statistical Plans and Programs", with Peyton Stapp of the Bureau of the Budget acting as chairman. An administrator from each of several federal agencies will discuss the plans of his agency:

Department of Agriculture	Orvis B. Wells, Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Department of Commerce	Phillip M. Hauser, Office of the Secretary
Federal Security Agency	T. H. Woofter, Office of the Administrator
Department of the Interior	Thomas H. Miller, Bureau of Mines
Department of Labor	Aryness Joy Wickens, Bureau of Labor Statistics
National Housing Agency	J. Bion Philipson, Office of the Administrator
Veterans Administration	S. P. Langhoff, Research Service

Notes on the Meeting of November 15, 1945

About 75 persons turned out for our first meeting on Statistics in Combat Operations. Judging from the favorable comment we heard, this was a very successful meeting. The revised constitution was passed without a dissenting vote. Credit must go to Samuel Dennis and Frank Garfield, chairmen of the Constitution Committee for finally getting this difficult assignment completed. The major changes finally incorporated in the draft mailed to members last spring, are as follows:

1. The nominating committee must propose at least two nominees for each elective office.
2. Nominees for elective offices may be proposed by a petition of 10 members.
3. A proposed amendment to the constitution for which proper notice has been given, may itself be amended by a three-quarters vote of those present.

This latter provision eliminates any waiting period in disposing of amendments to amendments.

Announcements

The annual meeting of the American Statistical Association will be held in Cleveland, Ohio on January 24-27, 1946, Thursday through Sunday. The final program will be mailed to members about January 1st. The tentative program includes the following topics:

- Thursday: income and employment, government program in statistics, numerical solution of regression equations
- Friday: consumer expenditures and savings, estimating relationships from non-experimental observations, experimental design, the measurement of productivity, prediction and structural estimation, multivariate analysis in economics.
- Saturday: sampling in the social sciences, personnel statistics, statistical needs for economic policy formation, President Shewhart's address on the Advancing Statistical Front
- Sunday: Modern acceptance sampling of attributes and variates

A joint meeting of the Washington Chapter of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and the Washington Statistical Society is being planned for February. At that time representatives of the Bureau of Internal Revenue will describe the sampling program being developed in the Bureau in connection with the tabulation and analysis of individual and corporation income tax returns.

The Graduate School of the U.S. Department of Agriculture is scheduling two seminars to be held in room 2862 South Agricultural Building at 8:10 p.m. on the following dates:

- January 18, 1946: Col. Leslie Simon, Aberdeen Proving Ground, "Sorting Ammunition by Statistical Methods"
- February 21, 1946: Miss Helen Humes, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Sampling and Field Problems in Vacancy and Rent Surveys".

Executive Committee Meeting

The executive committee of the Society held a meeting on November 21, 1945 for the purpose of discussing further the program for the future months. Problems submitted and discussed as suitable topics for future meetings included business statistics, medical statistics, "60 million jobs", the design of questionnaires, statistical programs of various Federal agencies. The subject of informal and periodic conferences on certain specific problems or fields was also discussed, and it was decided to poll the membership as to their wishes in the matter. The four questions are given below.

The committee decided to continue the present two-page news-letter in place of the postal cards used heretofore inasmuch as the total cost of the first issue of 500 copies was only \$18.48.

Frank Hoerber of OPA, a member of the executive committee, is leaving soon for the American Military Government in Berlin. His successor will be announced later.

A Membership Poll on Special Conferences

For a long time the officers of the Society have thought that the usual monthly meetings were not enough, that we ought to broaden our program. Last year a start was made by Major Stockon who organized a twice-a-month conference on Statistics in Management.

Before organizing these conferences it was thought desirable to poll the membership of the Society in order to determine the major problems and fields which members desire to discuss, or have discussed, at such conferences. Examples of such problems or fields are quality control, opinion polls, sampling, design of experiments, machine tabulation methods, statistics in management, as well as the numerous broad economic problems such as employment, consumer income and expenditures, production, taxation.

Below are given four questions which we are asking you to answer on the addressed postal card enclosed. Please number your answers to correspond to the four questions listed below:

1. Give the two or three major problems or fields which you are most interested to discuss, or have discussed, at a special conference. State briefly also the specific aspects of these fields or problems with which you are concerned.
2. How many times per month do you wish to attend such conferences?
3. What day, or days, of the week are most convenient for you to attend these conferences?
4. What hours do you prefer for each day which you have mentioned under question 3?

December 8, 1945